

December 10, 2015

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EPA, REGION III
OFFICE OF REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Garvin:

Thank you for your letter dated September 4, 2015. As you noted, Pennsylvania (PA) has expressed a commitment to address the necessary nutrient and sediment reductions to get PA back on track to meet our Chesapeake Bay goals. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has been working in cooperation with PA's Department of Agriculture, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and State Conservation Commission to develop an 18-month strategy to meet our commitment. The final 18-month strategy was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review and reflects PA's commitments to the Chesapeake Bay goals. I hope that EPA will be an active partner in its implementation.

The Chesapeake Bay Implementation grant (CBIG) and the Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program grant (CBRAP) are important parts of PA's Chesapeake Bay efforts. These two grants support Conservation District efforts to install best management practices (BMPs) by funding projects and staff; DEP inspectors who conduct inspections of small farm operations; data system development for point source permit programs; and many of the other diverse activities that encompass PA's Bay efforts. Unfortunately, the 18-month strategy was not completed prior to the EPA's July deadline for application processing and EPA chose to withhold a portion of these necessary funds.

PA is committed to addressing EPA's concerns and accelerating the pace of program implementation. We are particularly concerned about the \$1.685 million of CBIG agricultural BMP funds EPA is withholding, as this funding is critical to help meet our water quality goals. DEP has modified the CBIG and CBRAP work plans to meet EPA's concerns and reflect many of the commitments made in the 18-month strategy. PA submitted a revised work plan on September 8, 2015 to address comments received from EPA on August 27, 2015. PA will address your September 4, 2015 comments in this communication and the work plan revisions.

The enclosure is a response to the comments received with your September 4, 2015 letter. This enclosure includes Pennsylvania's commitment to:

- Provide additional funds for water quality improvements. The 18-month strategy specifically recommends a new round of "Growing Greener" funding that will include a focus on compliance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed;

- Develop a “culture of compliance” by implementing an Agricultural Compliance and Enforcement Strategy, establishing a framework that shows how PA will annually inspect over 10% of the farms in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed;
- Improve recordkeeping and data systems to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made towards PA’s restoration effort; and
- Increase the number of “Tier 1” and “Tier 2” nutrient management plans produced by the CBRAP grant.

DEP hopes that the enclosed information, our ongoing discussions with EPA staff, and the details of the 18-month strategy, will address EPA’s concerns. PA also hopes that EPA will reconsider and award the \$1.685 million for agricultural BMPs and the \$1.2 million, including funding for conservation district staff, which EPA is currently withholding from the CBIG and CBRAP grants. Both sources of funds are critical for PA’s Chesapeake Bay efforts.

I look forward to our continued discussions on these issues. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



John Quigley
Secretary

Enclosure

Pennsylvania's response to Shawn Garvin's September 4, 2015 letter to Secretary John Quigley is noted below with the original comment in *italicized* type and the response in normal type.

Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG) Work Plan & Budget

- From the FY15 CBIG award \$1,685,033 is not being funded.
- The specific objective not being funded is **Objective 4 – Chesapeake Bay Cost Share Program**. EPA may award additional funding for Objective 4 if PADEP addresses the following expectations:
 - Provide a plan to increase the agriculture cost-share program. Current levels of funding are insufficient to increase necessary priority BMP implementation.

Pennsylvania's current efforts for non-point source and agricultural best management practices (BMPs) include multiple programs, funded from state and federal sources, and include grant programs (e.g. Growing Greener, CBIG Special Projects); loan programs (e.g. PENNVEST); and tax credit programs (e.g. REAP.) A list of these state and federal funding programs is provided in Appendix #1. In 2014, the total for non-AMD non-point source BMPs is \$58 million of state funds and \$69 million of federal funds. In the CBIG grant, only the \$1,458,823 in Growing Greener funds that were necessary to match the federal CBIG funds in the grant are identified.

The current Growing Greener program has supported \$39 million of projects in the Chesapeake Bay watershed over the past five (5) years. This is an average of 60% of the funds of this statewide program. Governor Wolf has committed to pursuing additional resources - "Growing Greener 3" - and this effort will have Chesapeake Bay compliance as a primary goal. Growing Greener 3 legislation will be part of the Governor's 2016-17 budget proposal.

In addition, DEP and PDA will work together to establish a process for conducting a joint, annual assessment to determine the fiscal support needed to fund additional agricultural conservation practices required to keep on track with the Bay and local water cleanup goals. This assessment will be provided each year for consideration by the Governor's Budget office starting with the next budget cycle for the Commonwealth.

Pennsylvania will seek additional sources of funding beyond the future Growing Greener program. These include on-going efforts such as:

- Pennsylvania has developed an approximately \$4 million submittal for the USDA-NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) to implement stream exclusion measures and buffers in two priority agricultural counties: York and Lancaster.
- Pennsylvania state agencies will coordinate with state and local partners to submit projects for funding through various grant programs, such as the NFWF Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund, to accelerate implementation of high priority agricultural practices in high priority agricultural watersheds.
- Pennsylvania DEP will complete updates to its Nutrient Trading Program within the 18-month period of this Strategy as discussed with EPA and stakeholder groups. This includes the completion of the nutrient trading calculation tool and necessary updates to baseline and other requirements in line with the Technical Memos issued by EPA for the Bay Program. Trading is a viable option to yield lower cost solutions for load reductions with agricultural sector Best Management Practices.

- *Demonstrate how funding will be targeted to high priority conservation practices in high priority watersheds.*

DEP Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant BMP projects are solicited via a competitive process and awarded to county conservation districts. When DEP announces the available funding, it specifies priority watersheds and priority conservation practices in the application guidance. (See Appendix #2, the December 15, 2014 announcement for these 2015 CBIG funds.) All applications for funding are evaluated and funding is awarded to the highest ranked projects.

In addition, the focus of Pennsylvania cost-share programs will be on the implementation of the following cost effective BMPs: cover crops, tillage practices (no-till & conservation till), manure transport, stream bank fencing, and buffers. Pennsylvania will ensure the same minimum information on these practices is consistently collected from all programs.

A list of priority agricultural best BMPs with the greatest nutrient reduction potential for the Chesapeake Bay will also be developed. PA will target annual agricultural cost share funding to these low cost, effective agricultural conservation practices that result in significant nutrient reductions.

Pennsylvania will also implement targeted efforts in impaired watersheds, including the Chiques Creek watershed in Lancaster County. This watershed is impaired, and its geography and land use are amenable to successful BMP implementation to provide quick results toward attainment status. This watershed is also in an area where there is a local group interested and ready to take the lead on implementation of the initiative. Federal and state cost-share dollars will be focused in the watershed for implementation. Work in the Chiques Creek watershed could be a model for similar future efforts in other watersheds.

PA will evaluate the results of the Chiques Creek targeted watershed project to determine its effectiveness and efficiency (\$/lb.) in reducing nutrient loadings to the Chesapeake Bay, and use this information and any lessons learned to inform decisions regarding future targeted watershed efforts that may significantly increase implementation of the priority agricultural conservation practices in the select priority agricultural watersheds.

FY15 Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program (CBRAP) Grant Work Plan & Budget

- *From the FY15 CBRAP award \$1,211,690 is not being funded.*
- *Specific objectives not being funded include the following:*
 - ***Objective 3 – Nutrient Management Compliance Assistance.*** *EPA may award additional funding for Objective 3 if PADEP addresses the following expectations:*
 - *To demonstrate a commitment to the “culture of compliance”, quantify and conduct additional random non-Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)/non-Concentrated Animal Operations (CAO) inspections to annually cover 10% of the universe of farms starting in 2016.*

To demonstrate the “culture of compliance” required by EPA, Pennsylvania’s 18-month strategy outlines an Agricultural Compliance and Enforcement Strategy that will be implemented to maximize results. This Strategy is modelled after the successful approach used by DEP’s North Central Regional Office, which EPA cited as exemplary. To help farmers do the right thing to

improve Pennsylvania's water quality, Pennsylvania intends to establish an initial policy of compliance by focusing on the existing regulatory requirements. In addition, Pennsylvania's strategy outlines other actions, such as assigning cap loads to small farm operations.

- *10% inspections equates to 2,000-3,000 inspections/year.*

To address EPA's requirement to inspect all agricultural operations every 10 years, Pennsylvania provided a table of DEP and Conservation District staffing actions needed to meet EPA inspection expectations and implement the recommendations contained in the 18-month strategy.

The 18-month strategy also indicates that DEP will enlist the services of County Conservation District staff to assist with inspections of farms to a) verify each farm is in regulatory compliance by having all the necessary plans applicable to their operation, and b) inspect 10 percent of all farms in the Bay watershed annually. This will be accomplished by eliminating the current Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan requirement to conduct 100 farm educational visits per funded staff position and replace it with 50 Manure Management and Agricultural E&S Plan inspections and an unfunded BMP data collection activity.

- *Provide a quantitative goal to demonstrate the conservation districts' role in conducting inspections outside of the regional watershed assessment areas.*

To address EPA's requirement to inspect all agricultural operations every 10 years, Pennsylvania provided a table of DEP and Conservation District staffing actions needed to meet EPA inspection expectations and implement the recommendations contained in the 18-month strategy.

- *Modify the Conservation District Delegation Agreement in 2016 versus 2017.*

DEP will include additional non-CAFO/non-CAO inspections in 2016-17 contracts with conservation districts in the Bay watershed. The delegation agreement would be amended to address this issue statewide in the next delegation agreement.

DEP and the State Conservation Commission (SCC) will begin the process to modify these delegation agreements in 2015. The current Nutrient Management and Manure Management Program Delegation agreement between the DEP, SCC and County Conservation Districts expires on June 30, 2017. There are 57 county conservation districts that have this delegation agreement, 37 of which are in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Every 5 years, the terms and conditions of these agreements are renegotiated with the districts. The process is, generally, a workgroup of DEP, CC and CD staff is formed; drafts are prepared and circulated for comments; a draft final document is sent to each district for a final opportunity to comment; and the delegation agreement is approved as a formal action of the SCC. Conservation districts are not required to accept a delegation agreement. Those who accept this delegation receive funding from state and federal sources to perform a list of required output measures. (Note: 2015-16 funding for these delegation agreements is \$2.7 million; \$2.073 from the state Nutrient Management Fund and \$632,000 from CBRAP.)

- *Fill gaps in implementing its non-CAFO Compliance Monitoring Strategy with additional Pennsylvania staff under Objective #2 for FY2016.*

Staff to be funded by Objective #2 currently conduct about 100 inspections per person per year. Since 2011, the CBRAP staff positions have conducted over 1,300 inspections. Most of these inspections are of non-CAFO/non-CAO farms. Additional inspections by these staff positions may be possible, even when factoring in biosecurity considerations. Each CBRAP funded inspector will be expected to address 100 inspections per year. When compliance actions are required, additional work/time is necessary to bring operations back into compliance, which limits the amount of additional inspections that can be conducted. These CBRAP staff have taken over 500 compliance actions and assessed over \$100,000 in fines.

Adding DEP staff with CBRAP funding is not practical or preferable. These funds are treated as “temporary” and cannot be used to hire full-time permanent staff.

DEP plans to request additional staff resources to conduct additional inspections via the state budget process. These resources will be sought in the 2016-2017 budget cycle. When the PA legislature provides funding to DEP to support the hiring of additional staff, DEP expects that each new staff will conduct 100-150 inspections per staff position per year.

- *Provide a plan to ramp up implementation and compliance with Manure Management plans.*

The 18-month strategy discusses details on the “ramp up” of implementation of manure management plans. Tier 1 Nutrient Management plans in the current Bay model – and nutrient management plans.

The planned random non-CAFO/non-CAO annual inspections will be verifying these operations have the required Manure Management Plans. Compliance actions will be taken on operations found not to have a plan. These operations will be required to prepare and implement a plan or face additional enforcement measures.

- ***Objective 4 – Improved Tracking and Accountability.*** EPA may award additional funding for Objective 4 if PADEP addresses the following expectations:

- *Provide a plan to remedy deficiencies in Pennsylvania’s databases that were documented in EPA’s Animal Agriculture Assessment Report and the Chesapeake Bay Partnership Agriculture Workgroup’s Poultry Litter Subcommittee’s report.*

This is a complex request with many potential responses/answers. Pennsylvania will address some of the data related concerns from the Poultry Litter Subcommittee Report and the EPA Animal Agriculture Assessment Report.

1. ***From the Poultry Litter Subcommittee report, there were concerns about the lack of data for the poultry industry in Pennsylvania and the lack of centralized data storage or filing specific to manure information currently in approved nutrient management plans.***

Pennsylvania is currently contracting with Penn State to address the data needs for poultry. This study will update the poultry manure nutrient and volume data in the Pennsylvania

Agronomy Guide for nutrient management purposes and provide current industry data from multiple housing and management systems for the Chesapeake Bay nutrient models. Pennsylvania will first address layers, but data from Pennsylvania broilers, turkeys, pullets, and breeders will also be collected. This project has been reviewed by Mark Dubin and other EPA program staff and was presented to the Ag Workgroup on September 17. This study is funded by Pennsylvania Clean Water Funds and is not part of CBRAP. (Note: This is not the "NASS Project" that was to be funded via Pennsylvania's CBRAP grant.)

In addition, DEP currently receives a form for every approved new/revised/renewed Nutrient Management Plan on nutrient planning acreage, animal manure information, and BMP implementation. DEP currently inputs much of this information into a database. One item of interest to the Poultry Litter Subcommittee - Farm Produced Manure Testing Information (% Solids, % Moisture, TN, Ammonia-N, TP, TK, and Water Soluble P) - is collected but not input into any data system. DEP and the SCC will review this and update our database to include this additional information. It is not expected that CBRAP funds will be used to address this project.

2. *From the EPA Animal Agriculture Assessment Report, EPA observed that the Commonwealth did not identify any electronic or comprehensive data systems used for tracking Ag E&S Plans and E&S control BMPs implemented at animal agriculture operations.*

DEP is adding an Agricultural program to eFACTS that will track inspections at non-CAFO/non-CAO operations, and will include confirmation that an Ag E&S plan is available for review and has been implemented. Additionally, CAFO operations will be transferred to this new Agricultural program in eFACTS and will also have this capability.

Pennsylvania's 18-month Strategy includes "Improving Record Keeping and Data Systems" to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made toward Pennsylvania's restoration efforts. The establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for the agriculture sector in place of so-far unsuccessful voluntary reporting efforts includes the design and build of a BMP Data Management System, establishment of reporting requirements for Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans, and provides the County Conservation Districts with tools to capture these data.

3. *From the EPA Animal Agriculture Assessment Report, EPA observed that DEP, SCC, and the CCDs do not have an integrated data system or approach in place for tracking and managing Manure Management program oversight.*

DEP is adding an Agricultural program to eFACTS that will track inspections at non-CAFO/non-CAO operations, and this will include confirmation that a Manure Management Plan is available for review and has been implemented at the operation.

Pennsylvania's 18-month Strategy includes "Improving Record Keeping and Data Systems" to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made toward Pennsylvania's restoration efforts. The establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for the agriculture sector in place of so-far unsuccessful voluntary reporting efforts includes the design and build of a BMP Data Management System, establishment of reporting requirements for Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans, and provides the County Conservation Districts with tools to capture these data.

4. *From the EPA Animal Agriculture Assessment Report, EPA observed that transferring information from the 66 CCDs to PADEP headquarters using paper records appears inefficient—particularly when the information appears to be stored electronically at the CCD level, albeit in a variety of software packages. (In regards to Nutrient Management Plans.)*

DEP is currently in the process of converting the existing form that is submitted in paper form into an Excel spreadsheet, so that the CCDs can submit the information electronically. A draft Excel form has been created and is currently undergoing review.

Pennsylvania's 18-month Strategy includes "Improving Record Keeping and Data Systems" to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made toward Pennsylvania's restoration efforts. The establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for the agriculture sector in place of so-far unsuccessful voluntary reporting efforts includes the design and build of a BMP Data Management System, establishment of reporting requirements for Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans, and provides the County Conservation Districts with tools to capture these data.

5. *From the EPA Animal Agriculture Assessment Report, EPA observed that there is inconsistency between the three main records management avenues: hard-copy documents, electronic documents (i.e., emails and attachments), and eFACTS. This inconsistency has the potential to provide different information to the permit writing and permit enforcement staff as well as the public. (In regards to NPDES CAFO Permits.)*

DEP is currently in the process of converting the existing form that is submitted in paper form into an Excel spreadsheet, so that the CCDs can submit the information electronically. A draft Excel form has been created and is currently undergoing review.

Pennsylvania's 18-month Strategy includes "Improving Record Keeping and Data Systems" to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made toward Pennsylvania's restoration efforts. The establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for the agriculture sector in place of so-far unsuccessful voluntary reporting efforts includes the design and build of a BMP Data Management System, establishment of reporting requirements for Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans, and provides the County Conservation Districts with tools to capture these data.

- *Provide a plan for how Pennsylvania's databases will function together to fully track farm visits, compliance, inspections, and BMP implementation.*

DEP is currently standardizing a statewide method for regional DEP offices to enter inspections into eFACTS. This is addressed in Objective 2: Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

Pennsylvania's 18-month Strategy includes "Improving Record Keeping and Data Systems" to provide better and more accessible documentation of progress made toward Pennsylvania's restoration efforts. The establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for the agriculture sector in place of so-far unsuccessful voluntary reporting efforts includes the design and build of a BMP Data Management System, establishment of reporting requirements for Ag E&S and Manure Management Plans, and provides the County Conservation Districts with tools to capture these data.

- **Objective 10 – Technical Assistance Program.** EPA is not funding \$500,000 for this objective. EPA may award additional funding for Objective 10 if Pennsylvania addresses the following expectations:

- *Increase the number of nutrient management plans to be implemented on an annual basis.*

Currently, the CBRAP grant has a Programmatic Output to develop 100 Nutrient Management Plans by December 30, 2017. This output specifically refers to Chapter 83 Nutrient Management Plans. These are considered “Tier 2” Nutrient Management Plans.

To address EPA’s request, the new output would be 100 Nutrient Management Plans per year. These would be Chapter 83 Nutrient Management Plans. These are considered “Tier 2” Nutrient Management Plans.

Also, an additional 350 manure management plans per year will be added as an output. These are manure management plans required under Chapter 91.36 and are considered “Tier 1” nutrient management plans. Staff funded by Objective #10 are often involved in development of manure management plans and the manure management training sessions funded by CBIG. These training sessions have resulted in over 1,000 plans and these plans have not been reported as outputs for either CBIG or CBRAP grants.

- *Specify what tier of nutrient management plans will be targeted.*

Tier 1 and Tier 2 nutrient management will be targeted.

Nutrient Management Plans required/developed under Pennsylvania’s Chapter 83 regulatory requirements are considered “Tier 2” Nutrient Management Plans in the Bay Model. Pennsylvania state law/regulations determine what farm operations are required to develop the Nutrient Management Plans. There are about 2,000 operations statewide that have “Tier 2” Nutrient Management Plans. This includes all permitted CAFOs.

Manure Management Plans required/developed under Pennsylvania’s Chapter 91 regulations are considered “Tier 1” Nutrient Management Plans. All operations that produce or handle manure, and are not required to have a Chapter 83 Nutrient Management Plan, are required to have a Manure Management Plan. Pennsylvania’s regulatory requirements determine when a Manure Management Plan is required.

- *Specify the priority areas that will be targeted for nutrient management plan implementation.*

Pennsylvania’s Manure Management Plans, “Tier 1” nutrient management, are currently being targeted for implementation. With the 2011 revisions to the Manure Management Manual, efforts have been focused on development of manure management plans across the state. CBIG and CBRAP grants have assisted in both the development of outreach materials and training sessions that result in complete manure management plans.

BMPs implemented using Chesapeake Bay grant funds are in the priority watersheds listed in Appendix #2. These are the priority watersheds for the CBIG BMP funds.

- *Specify the timeline/schedule for electronic self-reporting of manure management plans and BMPs, as well as when these BMPs will be inspected and verified.*

A timeline was included in the revised work plan submitted to EPA on September 8, 2015. Specifically, the work plan indicates that PACD will set up an electronic self-reporting system for Manure Management Plans and BMPs by November. However, this self-reporting system was "turned on" in mid-October. No CBRAP funds were used to support this effort.

Additional efforts by Penn State, the PA Farm Bureau, and others are also being developed. However, no CBRAP funds are being considered to support this effort.

Appendix #1: Non-Point Source Program List

Non-Point Source Program List

(Source: 2014 Pennsylvania's Nonpoint Source Annual Report)

State Sources (FY 2014)	N, P, Sediment Reduction Programs		AMD Remediation Programs	
	Personnel / Operations	BMP Deployment	Personnel / Operations	BMP Deployment
DEP	(\$ millions)		(\$ millions)	
Conservation District Watershed Specialists	2.136			
Environment Stewardship and Watershed Protection (Growing Greener):				
Watershed Protection Grants		17.393		
AMD Set-aside Grants				2.031
Chesapeake Bay Grant:				
Technical and Eng Assistance				
Special Projects				
Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (line item plus UGWF monies)	4.381			
Dirt and Gravel Roads Pollution Prevention Program		20.854		
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program Annual Projects				1.457
PA Infrastructure and Investment Authority (PENNVEST) – 2014 funds awarded by board		6.523		
Sub-total	6.517	44.77	0	3.488
PDA				
Nutrient Management Fund (Transfer)	2.714			
Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (line item plus UGWF monies)	2.744			
Resource Enhancement and Protection Tax Credits Available		10.000		
Sub-total	5.458	10.000	0	0
PUC				
Conservation District Funding from UGWF	3.750			
Sub-total	3.750	0	0	0
Commonwealth Financing Authority				
Act 13 NPS Funding (WR and AMD projects)		3.147		
Sub-total	0	3.147	0	0
State Funding Sub-total	15.725	57.917	0	3.488

Federal Sources (FY 2014)	N, P, Sediment Reduction Programs		AMD Remediation Programs	
	Personnel / Operations	BMP Deployment	Personnel/ Operations	BMP Deployment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)	(\$ millions)
Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program	0.277	4.395		
Chesapeake Bay Grants:	2.925	1.977		
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation				
Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grant-annual Funding (PA-specific grants)		0.553		
Chesapeake Bay Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grant (PA-specific grants)		1.916		
Sub-total	3.202	8.841	0	0
U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service				
Agricultural Management Assistance		1.080		
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative		0.0		
Environmental Quality Incentive Program		21.790		
Farm and Ranchland Protection Program		0.0		
Agric Cons Easement Program – Ag Land Easements		4.62		
Conservation Stewardship Program (new contracts)		0.350		
Conservation Stewardship Program (funds obligated to pay on prior year contracts)		6.180		
Grasslands Reserve Program		0.310		
Healthy Forests Reserve Program		0.660		
Wetlands Reserve Program		0.0		
Agric Cons Easement Program – Wetland Reserve Easements		3.860		
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program		0.0		
Sub-total	0	38.850	0	0
U.S.D.A. Farm Service Agency				
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Includes Financial Incentives, Cost-Share and Rental Payments.		21.885		
Biomass Crop Assistance Program		0.013		
Grassland Reserve Program		0.150		
Sub-total	0	22.048	0	0
Office of Surface Mining				
AML Reclamation Funding Includes AML, Clean Streams Initiative and Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program.			16.71	35.65
Sub-total:	0	0	16.71	35.65
Federal Funding Sub-total	3.202	69.739	16.71	35.65

Appendix #2: 2015 Chesapeake Bay Grant Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Funding Opportunity Title: Chesapeake Bay Special Projects Funding Program

Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

Submittal Date: Proposals must be received by **February 27, 2015**

Contact Information: DEP Central Office
Dave Lewis
Bureau of Conservation and Restoration
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8555
Harrisburg, PA, 17105-8555
(717) 783-5205
dalewis@pa.gov

Funding Opportunity Description: Funds for the Chesapeake Bay Special Projects Funding Program (SPFP) are available to county conservation districts within the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funds will be allocated to projects located within EPA designated priority watersheds (list and maps attached), but may be allocated outside of these priority watersheds if there is sufficient justification of the benefits of the project, the project results in significant nutrient and sediment reductions, and the project significantly supports the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP).

Funding Priorities Information: Special Projects Funding Program applications must clearly state how the project meets the goals of the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay WIP and the conservation district's County Implementation Plan (CIP). All projects and best management practices (BMPs) will be considered. Priority will be given to projects located in EPA designated priority watersheds (list and map attached). Priority will also be given to projects that focus on:

- Non-structural BMPs that provide cost-effective solutions for the reduction of nutrient and sediment loads to the Bay. These include no-till/conservation tillage, cover crops, and ag E&S and manure management planning activities. **NOTE: Cover Crops will be the highest priority for projects in this 2014-15 application period.**
- Riparian corridor protection/restoration improvements that provide cost-effective solutions for the reduction of nutrient and sediment loads to the Bay. These include streamside practices, streamside animal fencing, and riparian buffers.)
- Manure storages or other "hard" BMPs that fit within the CIP and are matched with other funding sources.
- Collection of data regarding non-cost shared BMPs.

As the Department continues to focus limited resources toward restoring impaired waters, it is becoming increasingly important to coordinate with other funding sources such as the federal Farm Bill, federal Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program, PennVest and Growing Greener. Districts are encouraged to consider the priorities listed in these programs as you develop these applications. Acceptable proposals could include funding for either technical service providers or district staff positions to complete the necessary planning, design, and implementation work that will be required to utilize this available funding source.

Guidelines for the funding of no-till, cover crops, and stream-bank fencing that were released with the FY 2010 Special Project Funding Program grant announcements still apply.

This announcement will utilize a portion of these EPA funds to support projects that address the need to collect data regarding Best Management Practices that can be submitted to EPA to gain "credit" in the Bay model. Projects that collect BMP data must meet the rigorous expectations for data collection and verification of the Chesapeake Bay model. A demonstration of understanding of the Chesapeake Bay Program's data collection needs and requirements must be included in the application for special project funds. All BMP data collection projects will be considered, but priority will be given to projects that focus on collection of Manure Management Plan information that is reportable to EPA Bay model.

Award Information: This solicitation announces that funds will be available no later than July 1, 2015. Funds are currently available and may be awarded prior to July 1, 2015. The individual Special Project Fund Program award amounts will be determined by the proposals received and available funds.

There is no guarantee that sufficient funds will be available to make awards to all qualified projects. The exact amount of funds awarded will be determined in pre-award negotiations between the applicant and DEP representatives. This notice does not oblige DEP to award funding to any specific project or to obligate any available funds. If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so at their own risk of not being reimbursed by DEP.

Application and Submission Information: Separate applications must be submitted for each Special Project. Electronic application packages are available at:
<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=554224&mode=2>

Applicants are encouraged to submit the application electronically.

This form can be printed out and submitted as a paper application as well. If the applicant has difficulty accessing the website or downloading the required forms, they should contact Dave Lewis (Contact information on Page 1)

Potential applicants are encouraged to consult with their appropriate DEP Regional Office and DEP Chesapeake Bay Field Representative to discuss project ideas in the context of the counties CIP and the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay WIP goals and objectives.

Application deadline is February 27, 2015. Applicants must submit (2 copies) of each completed application package including the outputs/budget page to the appropriate Regional Office (address below) no later than February 27, 2015.

DEP Southcentral Regional Office
909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200
Contact: Andrea Blosser ablosser@pa.gov (717) 705-4763

DEP Northcentral Regional
Office Suite 101, 208 West
Third Street Williamsport,
PA 17701
Contact: Patricia Havens phavens@pa.gov (570) 327-3667

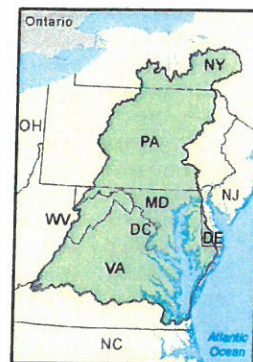
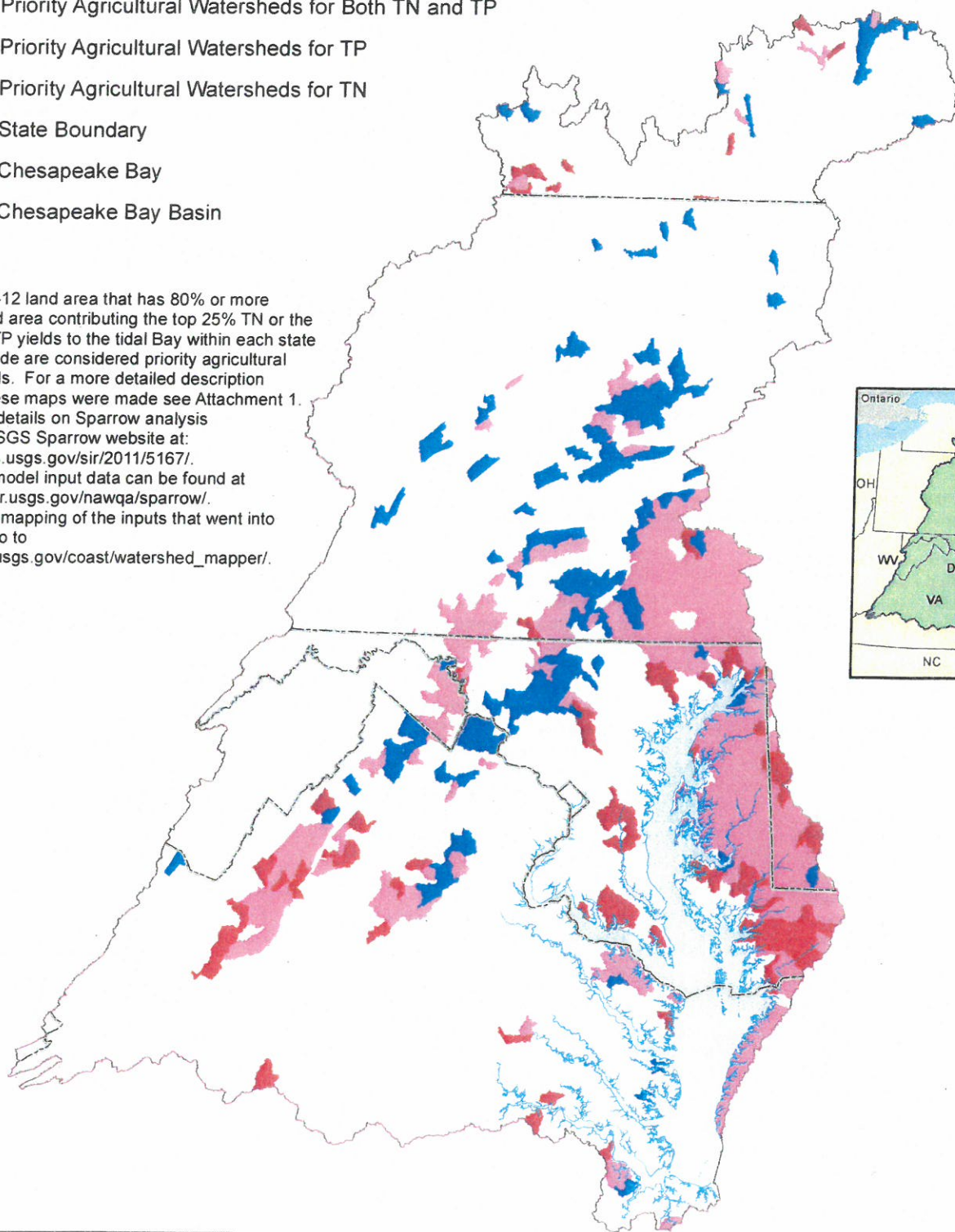
DEP Northeast Regional Office
2 Public Square
Wilkes Barre, PA 18711-0790
Contact: Peter Tarby ptarby@pa.gov (570) 826-2102

Priority Agricultural Watersheds in Which to Focus Nitrogen and Phosphorus Reduction Activities



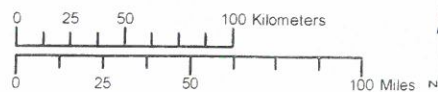
- Priority Agricultural Watersheds for Both TN and TP
- Priority Agricultural Watersheds for TP
- Priority Agricultural Watersheds for TN
- State Boundary
- Chesapeake Bay
- Chesapeake Bay Basin

Any HUC-12 land area that has 80% or more of the land area contributing the top 25% TN or the top 25% TP yields to the tidal Bay within each state or basinwide are considered priority agricultural watersheds. For a more detailed description of how these maps were made see Attachment 1. For more details on Sparrow analysis see the USGS Sparrow website at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2011/5167/>. Selected model input data can be found at <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/sparrow/>. For online mapping of the inputs that went into this map go to http://lcat.usgs.gov/coast/watershed_mapper/.



Data Sources: Chesapeake Bay Program

For more information, visit www.chesapeakebay.net
Disclaimer: www.chesapeakebay.net/termsfuse.htm



<u>HUC 12</u>	<u>HU 10 NAME</u>	<u>HU 12 NAME</u>	<u>STATES</u>	<u>NUTRIENT</u>
020600020203	Elk River	Big Elk Creek	DE,MD,PA	N and P
020700041002	Antietam Creek	East Branch Antietam Creek	MD,PA	P
020700041006	Antietam Creek	Middle Antietam Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700041005	Antietam Creek	West Branch Marsh Run-Marsh Run	MD,PA	N and P
020700040807	Conococheague Creek	Meadow Brook-Conococheague Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700040806	Conococheague Creek	Rockdale Run-Conococheague Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061601	Deer Creek	Headwaters Deer Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061602	Deer Creek	Upper Deer Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020600020202	Elk River	Little Elk Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700090203	Marsh Creek	Lower Marsh Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020600030401	Middle Gunpowder Falls	Little Falls	MD,PA	N and P
020503061304	Muddy Creek	Fishing Creek-Muddy Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020600020101	North East River-Upper Chesapeake Bay	Little North East Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020600020102	North East River-Upper Chesapeake Bay	North East Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061503	Octoraro Creek	Basin Run-Octoraro Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061502	Octoraro Creek	Tweed Creek-Octoraro Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700090102	Rock Creek	Lower Rock Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061710	Susquehanna River	Broad Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061711	Susquehanna River	Conowingo Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020503061712	Susquehanna River	Conowingo Dam-Susquehanna River	MD,PA	N and P
020700090303	Toms Creek	Lower Toms Creek	MD,PA	P
020700090302	Toms Creek	Middle Creek	MD,PA	P
020700090501	Upper Monocacy River	Alloway Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700090503	Upper Monocacy River	Cattail Branch-Monocacy River	MD,PA	N and P
020700090502	Upper Monocacy River	Piney Creek	MD,PA	N and P
020700040504	Little Tonoloway Creek-Potomac River	Ditch Run-Potomac River	MD,PA,WV	N and P
020501040503	Troups Creek	Middle Troups Creek	NY,PA	P
020501030703	Wappasening Creek-Susquehanna River	Lower Wappasening Creek	NY,PA	P
020501030702	Wappasening Creek-Susquehanna River	Middle Wappasening Creek	NY,PA	P
020700041003	Antietam Creek	West Branch Antietam Creek	PA	N and P
020502040404	Bald Eagle Creek	Nittany Creek	PA	N
020503060301	Bermudian Creek	Latimore Creek	PA	N
020503060303	Bermudian Creek	Mud Run-Bermudian Creek	PA	N
020503060302	Bermudian Creek	North Branch Bermudian Creek	PA	N
020503060803	Chickies Creek	Donegal Creek	PA	N and P
020503060802	Chickies Creek	Little Chickies Creek	PA	N and P
020503060804	Chickies Creek	Lower Chickies Creek	PA	N and P
020502061103	Chillisquaque Creek	Chillisquaque Creek-West Branch Susquehanna River	PA	N
020502061101	Chillisquaque Creek	Mud Creek	PA	N and P
020503060904	Cocalico Creek	Cocalico Creek-Conestoga River	PA	N and P
020503060903	Cocalico Creek	Hammer Creek	PA	P
020503060901	Cocalico Creek	Little Cocalico Creek-Cocalico Creek	PA	N and P
020503060902	Cocalico Creek	Middle Creek	PA	N
020503060707	Codorus Creek	Codorus Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503060703	Codorus Creek	Headwaters Codorus Creek	PA	N
020503060706	Codorus Creek	Mill Creek	PA	N
020503060702	Codorus Creek	Oil Creek	PA	N and P
020503060704	Codorus Creek	Stoverstown Branch-Codorus Creek	PA	N and P
020503060705	Codorus Creek	Willis Run-Codorus Creek	PA	N
020503061105	Conestoga River	Lititz Run	PA	N and P
020503061101	Conestoga River	Little Muddy Creek	PA	N and P
020503061107	Conestoga River	Lower Conestoga River	PA	N and P
020503061104	Conestoga River	Middle Conestoga River	PA	N and P
020503061102	Conestoga River	Muddy Creek	PA	N and P
020503061106	Conestoga River	Muddy Run-Mill Creek	PA	N and P
020503061103	Conestoga River	Upper Conestoga River	PA	N and P
020700040805	Conococheague Creek	Falling Spring Branch-Conococheague Creek	PA	N and P
020700040804	Conococheague Creek	Muddy Run	PA	N and P
020503061403	East Branch Octoraro Creek	Muddy Run-East Branch Octoraro Creek	PA	N and P
020503061401	East Branch Octoraro Creek	Pine Creek	PA	N and P
020503061402	East Branch Octoraro Creek	Valley Creek-East Branch Octoraro Creek	PA	N and P
020600020201	Elk River	East Branch Big Elk Creek	PA	N and P
020502040303	Fishing Creek	Cedar Run	PA	N and P
020501070707	Fishing Creek	Fishing Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020501070706	Fishing Creek	Hemlock Creek	PA	N

020501070705	Fishing Creek	Mud Run-Green Creek	PA	N
020503040701	Kishacoquillas Creek	Upper Kishacoquillas Creek	PA	N
020503061001	Little Conestoga Creek	Millers Run-Little Conestoga Creek	PA	N and P
020503061002	Little Conestoga Creek	West Branch Little Conestoga Creek-Little Conestoga Creek	PA	N and P
020503060402	Little Conewago Creek	Lower Little Conewago Creek	PA	N
020502060702	Little Muncy Creek	Big Run	PA	N
020503050701	Little Swatara Creek	Crosskill Creek	PA	N
020503050703	Little Swatara Creek	Lower Little Swatara Creek	PA	N and P
020503050702	Little Swatara Creek	Upper Little Swatara Creek	PA	N and P
020503060501	Lower Conewago Creek	Beaver Creek	PA	N
020503060502	Lower Conewago Creek	Davidsburg Run-Conewago Creek	PA	N
020503050402	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Alexanders Spring Creek	PA	N and P
020503050405	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Hogestown Run	PA	N and P
020503050404	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Letort Spring Run	PA	N and P
020503050401	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Mount Rock Spring Creek	PA	N and P
020503050406	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Simmons Creek-Conodoguinet Creek	PA	N
020503050407	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Trindle Spring Run	PA	N and P
020503050403	Lower Conodoguinet Creek	Wertz Run-Conodoguinet Creek	PA	N
020503020303	Lower Frankstown Branch Juniata River	Piney Creek	PA	N
020503041201	Lower Juniata River	Doe Run-Juniata River	PA	N
020501061407	Lower Susquehanna River	Buttermilk Creek	PA	N
020501071006	Lower Susquehanna River	City of Sunbury-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020501071003	Lower Susquehanna River	Logan Run	PA	N
020501071005	Lower Susquehanna River	Mahoning Creek	PA	N
020501071004	Lower Susquehanna River	Sechler Run	PA	N
020501071002	Lower Susquehanna River	Tenmile Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503050902	Lower Swatara Creek	Bow Creek-Swatara Creek	PA	N
020503050901	Lower Swatara Creek	Reeds Run-Swatara Creek	PA	N and P
020503050904	Lower Swatara Creek	Spring Creek	PA	N and P
020503050906	Lower Swatara Creek	Swatara Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503010502	Mahanoy Creek	Schwaben Creek	PA	N and P
020503010502	Mahanoy Creek	Schwaben Creek	PA	P
020503010802	Mahantango Creek	Lower Mahantango Creek	PA	N
020503010801	Mahantango Creek	Upper Mahantango Creek	PA	N
020503050308	Middle Conodoguinet Creek	Big Spring Creek-Conodoguinet Creek	PA	N
020503050304	Middle Conodoguinet Creek	Bulls Head Branch	PA	N and P
020503050305	Middle Conodoguinet Creek	Green Spring Creek	PA	N and P
020503050303	Middle Conodoguinet Creek	Laughlin Run-Paxton Run	PA	N
020503050301	Middle Conodoguinet Creek	Thompson Creek-Burd Run	PA	N
020503010305	Middle Creek	Middle Creek-Penns Creek	PA	N
020503061303	Muddy Creek	Bald Eagle Creek-Muddy Creek	PA	N and P
020503061301	Muddy Creek	North Branch Muddy Creek	PA	N and P
020503061302	Muddy Creek	South Branch Muddy Creek	PA	N and P
020503061501	Octoraro Creek	West Branch Octoraro Creek	PA	N and P
020503010406	Penns Creek	Lower Penns Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503061203	Pequea Creek	Big Beaver Creek	PA	N and P
020503061204	Pequea Creek	Climbers Run-Pequea Creek	PA	N and P
020503061202	Pequea Creek	Eshleman Run-Pequea Creek	PA	N and P
020503061201	Pequea Creek	Headwaters Pequea Creek	PA	N and P
020503050801	Quittapahilla Creek	Killinger Creek	PA	N and P
020503050802	Quittapahilla Creek	Snitz Creek-Quittapahilla Creek	PA	N and P
020700090101	Rock Creek	Upper Rock Creek	PA	N and P
020700040703	Rocky Spring Branch-Back Creek	Campbell Run-Back Creek	PA	N and P
020503010103	Shamokin Creek	Little Shamokin Creek	PA	N and P
020503010104	Shamokin Creek	Shamokin Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503050103	Sherman Creek	Bixler Run	PA	N
020503060602	South Branch Codorus Creek	Lake Redman-Lake Williams-East Branch Codorus Creek	PA	N
020503060603	South Branch Codorus Creek	Lower South Branch Codorus Creek	PA	N and P
020503060601	South Branch Codorus Creek	Upper South Branch Codorus Creek	PA	N and P
020503060102	South Branch Conewago Creek	Plum Creek-South Branch Conewago Creek	PA	N
020502040101	Spring Creek	Cedar Run	PA	N and P
020502040104	Spring Creek	Logan Branch	PA	N
020503020402	Spruce Creek	Halfmoon Creek	PA	N
020503020404	Spruce Creek	Spruce Creek-Little Juniata River	PA	N
020503020403	Spruce Creek	Warriors Mark Run	PA	N
020501060106	Sugar Creek	Browns Creek	PA	N

020503011003	Susquehanna River	Bargers Run-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503061704	Susquehanna River	Cabin Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503051010	Susquehanna River	Conewago Creek	PA	N and P
020503061701	Susquehanna River	Conoy Creek	PA	N and P
020503011002	Susquehanna River	Fidlers Run-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503061705	Susquehanna River	Fishing Creek	PA	N and P
020503061709	Susquehanna River	Fishing Creek-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503061706	Susquehanna River	Green Branch-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503061702	Susquehanna River	Hartman Run-Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020503061703	Susquehanna River	Kreutz Creek	PA	N and P
020503061707	Susquehanna River	Otter Creek	PA	N and P
020501040905	Tioga River	Canoe Camp Creek	PA	N
020501060302	Towanda Creek	North Branch Towanda Creek	PA	N
020501061207	Tunkhannock Creek	Horton Creek	PA	N
020503060204	Upper Conewago Creek	Boro of East Berlin-Conewago Creek	PA	N and P
020503060203	Upper Conewago Creek	Swift Run-Conewago Creek	PA	N and P
020503050201	Upper Conodoguinet Creek	Rowe Run	PA	N and P
020503020104	Upper Frankstown Branch Juniata River	Halter Creek	PA	N
020503020103	Upper Frankstown Branch Juniata River	Plum Creek	PA	N
020503050606	Upper Swatara Creek	Lower Swatara Creek	PA	N
020503050601	Upper Swatara Creek	Upper Little Swatara Creek	PA	N
020700040605	West Branch Conococheague Creek	Lower West Branch Conococheague Creek	PA	N and P
020503010602	West Branch Mahantango Creek	Upper West Branch Mahantango Creek	PA	N
020502061204	West Branch Susquehanna River	Limestone Run-Northumberland County	PA	N and P
020502061205	West Branch Susquehanna River	Muddy Run-Lower West Branch Susquehanna River	PA	N and P
020502060602	West Branch Susquehanna River	Quenshukeny Run	PA	N
020502061203	West Branch Susquehanna River	Warrior Run	PA	N and P
020502061207	West Branch Susquehanna River	West Branch Susquehanna River-Susquehanna River	PA	N
020503010903	Wiconisco Creek	Little Wiconisco Creek	PA	N
020501060401	Wysox Creek	Bullard Creek	PA	N